

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of processing messages, comprising:

receiving an electronic mail message by a computer;

determining, by the computer, whether a content of the received message is ~~for~~ (1) intended to be read or viewed by a user, or (2) provides an instruction to ~~relates to monitoring or control of~~ an attached printing device associated with the computer by detecting a characteristic of the message, wherein the received message does not include print data to be printed by the attached printing device and the instruction is unrelated to printing of data included in or attached to the received message, the attached printing device including a processor;

transmitting a communication from the computer to the attached printing device, if the determining step determines that the received message ~~relates to monitoring or control of~~ provides the instruction to the attached printing device; and

operating the processor of the attached printing device in response to the transmitted communication.

2. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the determining step comprises:

determining whether the received message includes instructions for operating the printing device or whether the received message has the user of the computer as an end recipient.

3-7. (Canceled)

8. (Original) A method according to claim 1, wherein the receiving step comprises:
receiving an Internet electronic mail message.

9. (Cancelled)

10. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, further comprising the
steps of:

receiving, by the printing device, the communication transmitted from the computer;
and

transmitting parameters from the printing device to the computer, in response to the
communication which has been received by the printing device.

11. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 10, further comprising the
step of:

performing a mechanical action by the printing device, in response to the
communication which has been received by the printing device.

12. (Canceled)

13. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim [[12]] 1, wherein the
determining step comprises:

determining that the message ~~relates to the monitoring or control of~~ provides the
instruction to the attached printing device automatically by detecting a code within the
message.

14. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 13, wherein the determining step comprises:

determining that the message ~~relates to the monitoring or control of~~ provides the instruction to the attached printing device automatically by detecting the code which is the subject of the message.

15. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 13, wherein the determining step comprises:

determining that the message ~~relates to the monitoring or control of~~ provides the instruction to the attached printing device automatically by detecting the code which is in a body of the message.

16. (Original) A method according to claim 12, wherein the determining step is performed in response to a receipt of an incoming electronic mail message.

17. (Original) A method according to claim 16, wherein the determining step is performed in response to a receipt of an incoming electronic mail message which is detected by monitoring an existence of a file stored at a predetermined location in memory.

18-22. (Canceled)

23. (Currently Amended) A system for processing messages, comprising:
means, associated with a computer, for receiving an electronic mail message;
means for determining whether a content of the received message is ~~for~~ (1) intended to be read or viewed by a user, or ~~relates to monitoring or control of~~ (2) provides an

instruction to an attached printing device associated with the computer by detecting a characteristic of the message, wherein the received messages does not include print data to be printed by the attached printing device and the instruction is unrelated to printing of data included in or attached to the received message, the attached printing device including a processor;

means for transmitting a communication from the computer to the attached printing device, if the means for determining determines that the received message ~~relates to monitoring or control of~~ provides the instruction to the attached printing device; and

means for operating the processor of the attached printing device in response to the transmitted communication.

24. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 23, wherein the means for determining comprises:

means for determining whether the received message includes instructions for operating the printing device or whether the received message has the user of the computer as an end recipient.

25-29. (Canceled)

30. (Original) A system according to claim 23, wherein the means for receiving comprises:

means for receiving an Internet electronic mail message.

31. (Canceled)

32. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 23, further comprising:

means for receiving, by the printing device, the communication transmitted from the computer; and

means for transmitting parameters from the printing device to the computer, in response to the communication which has been received by the printing device.

33. (Previously Presented) A system according to claim 32, further comprising:

means for performing a mechanical action by the printing device, in response to the communication which has been received by the printing device.

34. (Canceled)

35. (Currently Amended) The system according to claim ~~[[34]]~~ 23, wherein the means for determining comprises:

means for determining that the message ~~relates to the monitoring or control of~~
provides the instruction to the attached printing device automatically by detecting a code within the message.

36. (Currently Amended) The system according to claim 35, wherein the means for determining comprising:

means for determining that the message ~~relates to the monitoring or control of~~
provides the instruction to the attached printing device automatically by detecting the code which is the subject of the message.

37. (Currently Amended) The system according to claim 35, wherein the means for determining comprises:

means for determining that the message ~~relates to the monitoring or control of~~
provides the instruction to the attached printing device automatically by detecting the code which is in a body of the message.

38. (Original) A system according to claim 35, wherein the means for determining operates in response to a receipt of an incoming electronic mail message.

39. (Original) A system according to claim 38, wherein the means for determining operates in response to a receipt of an incoming electronic mail message which is detected by monitoring an existence of a file stored at a predetermined location in memory.

40-44. (Canceled)

45. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, further comprising the steps of:

receiving data from the printing device, in response to the step of operating the processor;

creating an electronic mail message by the computer including the data which has been received; and

transmitting over the Internet the electronic mail message generated by the computer.

46. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, further comprising the step of:

executing, by a device driver of the computer, commands for at least one of
controlling and monitoring the printing device.

47. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the printing
device at least one of generates an image on a recording medium and scans an image on a
recording medium.

48. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the
transmitting step comprises:

transmitting the communication as a command for processing by the processor of the
printing device.

49. (Canceled)

50. (Previously Presented) A system according to claim 23, further comprising:
means for receiving data from the printing device, in response to an operation of the
means for operating the processor;

means for creating an electronic mail message by the computer including the data
which has been received; and

means for transmitting over the Internet the electronic mail message generated by the
computer.

51. (Previously Presented) A system according to claim 23, further comprising:
means for executing, by a device driver of the computer, commands for at least one of
controlling and monitoring the printing device.

52. (Previously Presented) A system according to claim 23, wherein the means for transmitting comprises:

means for transmitting the communication as a command for processing by the processor of the printing device.

53. (Canceled)